

THE DAILY JOURNAL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1893.

WASHINGTON OFFICE—515 Fourteenth St.

Telephone Calls.

Business Office.....228 Editorial Office.....242

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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Daily only, one month.....\$8.70

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world. If it be true that the darkest hour is just before day brighter times cannot be much longer delayed. It cannot be darker than it is now, and this condition cannot last long. The improvement may be imperceptible at first, and it may come very gradually, but it will come. The early bright hours and the long days of summer will surely come, and so will the returning light of prosperity in the business world.

WILL THE PRESIDENT BE CENSURED?

One of the first things that will engage the attention of Congress when it reassembles after the holidays will be the consideration of the Hawaiian question. Mr. Cleveland's message confessing the failure of "my plans" and turning the whole subject over to Congress has made it a domestic question. Annexation is no longer a live issue; the question is whether Congress will approve or censure the President's treatment of the subject. The indications are that the House will do the "cuckoo" act and adopt the resolution of Chairman McCreary, of the committee on foreign affairs, censuring Minister Stevens and by implication approving the President's course, but the action of the Senate may not be so favorable. In that body the resolution of Senator Morgan, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, calls for a thorough investigation of the whole subject, and it is believed that Senator Morgan will conduct the investigation in a patriotic and impartial spirit and without any preconceived purpose of indorsing or whitewashing the course of the administration. The Washington Star, an independent and usually well-informed paper, says:

It is understood that Mr. Cleveland is greatly dissatisfied with the course that Mr. Morgan has followed in the Senate, and is apprehensive lest some action unfavorable to the administration come from the same investigation. Mr. Cleveland, it is said, regards it as a display of impertinence on the part of Democrats to make any investigation of this matter. He would regard it as a display of impertinence and suspicion the course followed by Senator Morgan, fearing that it will amount to an attack on the administration.

This shows the temper of a usurper. Mr. Cleveland is always prating about his devotion to the Constitution and his supreme regard for the rights of the people, and yet when the Senate proposes to exercise its constitutional right of investigating his treatment of the Hawaiian question he construes it as an attack on the administration.

If Mr. Cleveland escapes a vote of censure he will owe it to Minister Willis, who wisely refrained from going as far as the administration expected him to go in restoring the deposed Queen. But so far as the constitutional or moral aspect of the case is concerned, the President is not censured. The President is always prating about his devotion to the Constitution and his supreme regard for the rights of the people, and yet when the Senate proposes to exercise its constitutional right of investigating his treatment of the Hawaiian question he construes it as an attack on the administration.

MONEY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

It must be evident to those who give consideration to the matter that the committees soliciting money in aid of the unemployed in this city will not obtain as much as will be needed unless some action is taken to reach the mass of people who can make but small weekly or monthly contributions, or small contributions to be made in installments. There are hundreds of people who would gladly give \$5 or \$10 if the payment could be made in installments of 50 cents or a dollar a week, but they cannot subscribe either of these amounts and pay them at one time. Such collection will involve an amount of work which the committees cannot undertake, and many who would make small contributions cannot go to the headquarters of the committee to make small payments. Already members of one Grand Army post have informally talked over the matter, and one of them, an employer of labor, suggested that a member be employed to canvass its membership for such signers as would agree to pay the post quartermaster or a special committee a given amount each week. It is probable that the subject will come up at the next meeting for action. The committee might divide the city into small districts and have them canvassed by responsible men or women, who will solicit subscriptions and provide for the weekly collection of money. The committee may have a plan of its own to reach those who are willing to exercise self-denial in order that they may contribute something to relieve the distress.

It is important that we all understand at this time that every dollar that can be raised will be needed, and that there will be untold suffering unless all who can spare a few dollars through positive self-denial respond to the call.

FIGHT THE WILSON BILL.

The Wilson bill is a bill to fight, and fight with a view to its defeat. Its shadow has filled the land with distrust and distress. As the months pass the situation becomes more and more deplorable. Every week the army of the unemployed increases. Now and then a factory resumes, but five close while one opens its doors. Tens of thousands of employers are retaining hundreds of thousands of men on partial time or wages, in hope of better times. Thousands of these employers, so often denounced as heartless, will not dismiss certain men so long as they are able to retain them. But these men cannot do this always or for months.

Republican papers, unlike Democratic, have not advertised distress until it was real and positive. Now it is admitted on all sides. For instance, here is the free trade New York Evening Post declaring the urgency of existing need, in the following language:

We must to-day do what we have never had occasion to do before, call attention to the appalling distress which prevails among the unemployed poor of this city. Thousands on thousands of persons who have always hitherto earned a decent livelihood, are sinking down into blank destitution from which recovery, with broken health and spirits, will be difficult.

If defeated in the Senate, as there is reason to believe that it can be, industry will start up at once and the present troubles will disappear like a summer cloud.

In view of such facts, the Journal repeats that the Wilson bill must be fought. It should be fought in Indiana as it is being fought in the manufacturing towns in the East—by wage-earners joining in signing petitions and sending them to some reliable Senator who is not enlisted in the free trade raid upon the industries of the country. If petitions with the names of ten or twenty thousand wage-earners should be sent from Indiana to a Senator Sherman, of Ohio, or Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, they would have an influence upon the Senate that would help to turn the tide. There need be no particular organization to secure thousands of petitions. Any man, who realizes the importance of this work, as does the Journal, can get a sheet of cap paper and write the following, or something like it, and circulate it for signatures:

To the United States Senate: We, the undersigned wage-earners, retailers and farmers in _____ county, Indiana, earnestly protest against the enactment of the Wilson bill or any similar measure.

If the readers of the Journal throughout Indiana will write and circulate such petitions during the next three weeks, ten, fifteen or even twenty thousand signers might be obtained. A dozen men could be found in any considerable community who would give a little time to circulating such petitions. If any such petitions should be sent to the Journal, they will be forwarded to a Senator who will present them. If numerous, as they already are in New York and New England, there is good reason to believe that, because of them, as the expression of the people, the Wilson bill will be rejected in the Senate. It is worth the effort.

A WORD FOR THE PILGRIM MOTHERS.

The numerous reports during the last few days of meetings in different cities to celebrate Forefathers' day, leave no doubt as to the wide dispersion and unswerving loyalty of the sons of New England. In every progressive community they form a considerable percentage, and wherever they go they carry with them unchanging devotion to the ideas that have made New England such a saving power in the land. This is right and admirable. It is well that the sons and grandsons of New England should come together once a year and exalt the virtues of the brave and noble men who sowed the seeds of civil and religious liberty in a soil whose harvest of men and women has so far outstripped all its other harvests. We can stand a great deal of eulogy of the pilgrim fathers. They deserve all that can be said, and we trust the time is far distant when the 22d of December will be permitted to pass without the sons of New England coming together in many cities to celebrate the anniversary of the arrival of the Mayflower and sound their own and their ancestors' praises.

But it occurs that while so many dinners are being eaten and so many speeches made in honor of the pilgrim fathers somebody ought to try and get in a word for the pilgrim mothers. If our forefathers are deserving of such honored remembrance, are not our foremothers equally so? The Mayflower did not bring men alone to the shores of Massachusetts. She brought nearly as many women as men, thirty-nine in all, and they did not come on a picnic any more than the men did. If the men left native land and friends behind them and came to carve out a new home in the wilderness where they could worship God according to the dictate of their consciences, so did the women, and from all accounts the consciences of the women were just as narrow, exacting and strict as those of the men. It is true they could not build houses, drive oxen or raise corn, but they could make the houses a little cheerful and homelike, they could smile on the pilgrim father as he went out to his daily labor, they could clean up after him as he came in at night covered with snow or mud, and they could fashion the pounded corn into dishes that fed bone and sinew. While the pilgrim father was laying the foundations of the state the pilgrim mother was taking care of the little pilgrims and qualifying them to become fit successors of the pilgrim fathers and ancestors in turn of heroic men and women who were to follow them. The pilgrim mother could not be a selectman, but generally she was a very select woman. She could not hold office or vote or fire a gun, but she trained up men who were masters of these and many other accomplishments. The pilgrim fathers would have been badly off indeed without the pilgrim mothers, and as for posterity—well, where would they be at? Always hereafter when the sons and grandsons and stepsons of New England meet on Forefathers' day to sing the praises and exalt the virtues of the pilgrim fathers, let them remember that they and the country and the world owe something also to the pilgrim mothers.

The uncertainty caused by the threatening attitude of the Democratic party towards the tariff bill is affecting all business interests. One would scarcely think that the fire insurance business would be much affected, but leading managers say it is to an alarming degree. They say that fire insurance requires for its prosperity a healthy condition of the interests which pay it tribute, and that when these are depressed the insurance business suffers accordingly. The closing of so many manufacturing establishments in all parts of the country has reduced the amount of insurance business to such an extent as almost to prove fatal to some companies, while the idleness of millions of workmen has reduced the receipts of merchants so that they are cutting down their insurance. The general stagnation of business has rendered it almost impossible to make collections, and altogether the companies are in hard lines.

Those who travel sufficiently to compare the street-railway facilities of this city, as they have been provided by the present officers of the Indianapolis Street-railway Company, will come to the conclusion that they are not surpassed elsewhere. There are lines on which it would be a convenience to localities to have electric power, but the trolley has been extended so widely during the past six months that the greater part of the city has the great convenience of rapid transit. There are two or three suburbs that will be connected ere long with the city by electric lines, but everything cannot be done in a few months. Indeed, the expansion of the electric system, under the present management, has exceeded the expectations of all those who can take ways and means into consideration. In connection with this rapid extension the motives of the company have nothing to do. It cannot gain that which it has not in the way of franchises by expending money under its present charter. Furthermore, the present managers have kept their hands out of local politics, which is a great gain. Of course, there will be people who will find fault; but a car is not waiting when they reach a corner, or because, between 5:30 and 6:30 p. m., when thousands of people desire to reach their homes, there are not sufficient cars to give them a seat. To these it may be said that similar conditions exist in every other city which has a business section. At certain hours the cars wait, and it would require more money than any company has to spend to furnish cars sufficient to accommodate patrons for a single trip and remain unused the rest of the day. It is well to be reasonable.

A London cablegram says that somebody recently discovered an uncut copy of the original sixpenny pamphlet edition of Gray's Elegy printed by the author in 1751, which was sold Wednesday for \$35. The possibilities of old garrets and second-hand bookstores in London are so great that one can believe almost anything in the way of alleged chance discoveries, and yet the ingenuity of modern counterfeiters is so great that we should want very strong proof of the genuineness of such a find as that described. If genuine, however, it ought to be worth almost any sum to a collector who had the money to buy it.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Repairing Damages.

She—You have broken the promise you made me—

He—Never mind, dear, I'll make you a new one.

The Next Duty.

Though Christmas day has passed and gone With all its joys, there yet'll Come the day when for the same 'Tis time to duly settle.

A Proposal.

Cholly—Don't you think it would be a noble thing for you to do with your wealth to establish a home for the feeble-minded?

Miss Rox—Oh, Mr. Sappe, this is so sudden!

A Mean Revenge.

"I've got even with Blimmins at last," said the society reporter.

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